

PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE - APPLICATION

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider whether they are willing to re-license the following vehicle: a Ford Mondeo, registration number X415 BDF, beyond the normal over-age date for a licensed private hire vehicle.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The current private hire vehicle licence conditions do not allow a vehicle to be licensed beyond the date eight years from the date of first registration, unless the Council is satisfied that the vehicle is suitable, having regard to mileage, appearance, condition and safety features. This condition relating to the age of the vehicle was imposed to improve the standard of vehicle being licensed for private hire.
- 2.2 Private hire vehicle licences are issued on a twelve monthly basis, however once a vehicle reaches six years old, six monthly licences are issued until the vehicle reaches eight years old.
- 2.3 Once a vehicle reaches eight years old, if the proprietor considers it to be in exceptional condition an application can be made to re-license the vehicle for a further six months. That licence can be issued under delegated authority, subject to the vehicle being inspected by officers and being considered to be suitable as in paragraph 2.1 above. Any further application cannot be granted under delegated authority and must be referred to the Licensing Panel.

3.0 APPLICATION

- 3.1 The proprietor of the vehicle, Mr Robinson has applied to re-license the vehicle as he considers it to be in exceptional condition.
- 3.2 The vehicle has been licensed as a private hire vehicle since 14 September 2005 and the current licence expires on 13 September 2009.
- 3.3 The date of first registration of this vehicle is 2 February 2001.
- 3.4 On expiry of the previous licence on 14 March 2009, an application was made for a further six month licence, thereby extending it beyond the vehicle's eighth birthday and after inspection and a satisfactory compliance test at Walsh Autos, the Council's authorised testing station, the licence was granted under delegated powers.
- 3.5 The vehicle has been examined at Walsh Autos and the pass slip is attached to this report.

4.0 FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial or staffing implications arising out of this report.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no equal opportunities implications arising out of this report.

6.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Article 6 and Article 1 of the First Protocol are of relevance.

7.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The following are of relevance:

Article 1, Protocol 1 – peaceful enjoyment of possessions. A licence is considered a possession in law and people should not be deprived of their possessions except in the public interest.

Article 6 - the right to a fair hearing

8.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

8.1 This report affects the entire Borough.

9.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are community safety implications arising out of this report as members are being asked to consider whether the vehicle is suitable to continue to be licensed as a private hire vehicle having regard to its mileage, appearance, condition and safety features.

10.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no planning implications arising out of this report.

11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 The application form submitted by Mr Robinson applying for the renewal of his Private Hire Vehicle Licence.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 Members are asked to consider whether or not to re-license this vehicle for a further period of six months.

Alan Stennard
Director of Regeneration

This report was prepared by Margaret Calvert who can be contacted on 0151 691 8476.